

# WEST MERSEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



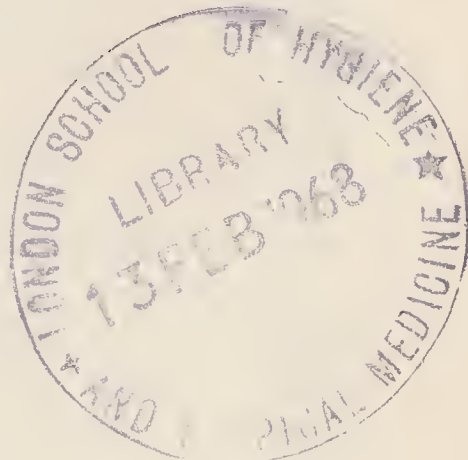
1964

## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mrs. E. I. COX

Mrs. M. A. ELLIS

Mr. C. A. MUSSETT



*Medical Officer of Health*

E. A. HARGREAVES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

*Public Health Surveyor and Inspector*

E. J. BANNER, M.Inst.H.E., A.R.San.I.

LEXDEN GRANGE,  
LEXDEN ROAD,  
COLCHESTER.

November, 1965.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the Health and Vital Statistics of the District for the year 1964.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

E. A. HARGREAVES.

**WEST MERSEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**Statistics and Social Circumstances of the Area**

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,683
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population	...						3,250
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1964) according to							
Rate Book	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,400
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£121,946
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£495

**SOCIAL CONDITIONS**

The district is the western portion of Mersea Island which lies between the estuaries of the Rivers Blackwater and Colne. The nearest town is Colchester, situated about 9½ miles to the north.

As a summer health resort, it attracts a large number of holiday makers, many of whom enjoy some excellent sailing.

The main industries are agriculture, fishing, building and yacht building, etc.

**EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR**

				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births	All	...	...	21	26	47
	Legitimate	...	...	20	26	46
	Illegitimate	...	...	1	0	1
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population					...	14.2
Comparability Factor		...	...	...	...	1.32
Corrected birth rate	...	...	...	...	...	19.0
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	18.4
Still births	All	...	...	1	0	1
	Legitimate	...	...	1	0	1
	Illegitimate	...	...	0	0	0
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births					...	20.8
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	16.3
				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total Births	...	...	...	...	...	48
Infant deaths	All	...	...	1	0	1
	Legitimate	...	...	1	0	1
	Illegitimate	...	...	0	0	0
In 1st 4 weeks	...	...	...	1	0	1
In 1st week	All	...	...	0	0	0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 births	...	...	...	...	...	21.3
Infant Mortality Rate, England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	20
Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	21.3
Early neonatal mortality rate (1st week) per 1,000 related births	...	...	...	...	...	0
Perinatal mortality rate (still births plus deaths) during 1st week per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	20.8
Percentage of illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	2.1

				M.	F.	Total
Maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	...	0
Maternal mortality rate	...	...	...	...	...	0
Deaths	...	...	...	27	16	43
Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	13.5
Corrected death rate	...	...	...	...	...	9.0
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	11.3
Comparability Factor	...	...	...	...	...	.67

#### Causes of death at different periods of life during 1964

Cause of Death	Sex	AGE IN YEARS				75 and over			
		Total All	Under 4	Under 1 year	1-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	over
Malignant Neoplasm,	M	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Lung	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm,	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Breast	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Malignant &	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Lymphatic Neoplasms	F	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diabetes	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Vascular Lesions of	M	7	—	—	—	—	1	3	3
Nervous System	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
Coronary Disease,	M	6	—	—	—	1	—	3	2
Angina	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Other Heart Disease	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Circulatory	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Disease	F	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Pneumonia	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital	M	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malformations	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
defined diseases	F	3	—	—	1†	—	—	—	2
Motor Vehicle	M	1	—	—	1*	—	—	—	—
Accidents	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	27	1	—	1*	2	1	8	14
	F	16	—	—	1†	1	1	3	10
		†35-44 years				*15-24 years			

#### National Assistance Acts, 1948-51

No action was taken under these Acts.



## **GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA**

### **Public Health Officers of the Local Authority**

*Medical Officer of Health*—E. A. Hargreaves, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. Part-time, devoting the remainder of time to two neighbouring authorities and to the County Council.

*Public Health Inspector* — E. J. Banner, M.Inst., H.E., A.R.San.I. Full-time, also Surveyor to the Council.

### **Laboratory Facilities**

The Laboratories available are situated at: —

The Essex County Hospital, Colchester.

The Public Health Laboratory, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich.

The Counties Laboratory, 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

### **Ambulance**

Non-emergency ambulance calls are not accepted from the general public.

To obtain an ambulance in an emergency it is merely necessary to lift the telephone receiver and ask for an ambulance. If there is a dialling system in operation dial “999” or “0” or “01” and ask for an ambulance.

### **Health Services provided by the Essex County Council**

Ante-natal and post-natal clinics.

Midwives.

Nursing in the home.

Health visiting.

Home helps.

Vaccination and diphtheria immunisation.

Mental Welfare.

Provision of nursing equipment and apparatus.

School health services.

Ante-natal and post-natal clinics are held at the Health Services Clinic, Culver Street, Colchester, at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held at the Church Hall on the second and fourth Wednesdays in each month at 2.15 p.m.

Welfare Foods are obtainable from: —

Mersea Stores, Yorick Road, West Mersea.

Central Stores, Barfield Road, West Mersea.

Assistance from the Home Help Services is obtained by communicating with the Area Organiser, Area Office, Trinity Street, Colchester (Telephone: Colchester 6251, Ext. 3).

### **Health Services provided by the Regional Hospital Board**

*Tuberculosis*.—The Chest Clinic is situated at St. Mary's Hospital, Colchester and is open daily.

*V.D.*—Sessions held at the Essex County Hospital on Mondays, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. for males and females, and Fridays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. for males and females.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### W A T E R

The water supplies in the district have been under the control of the Colchester and District Water Board since the 1st April, 1961.

I am informed by the Water Board that the number of bacteriological samples submitted for analysis from the Mersea bore hole supply was four per month, in which no coliform organisms were detected.

This supply was discontinued at the end of July and water is now supplied direct from the Board's other sources.

#### A typical Chemical Analysis in Parts per Million

*Appearance*—Bright with few particles.

<i>Colour</i> ... ..	Nil	<i>Turbidity, less than</i>	3
<i>pH</i> ... ..	8.3	<i>Odour</i> ... ..	Nil
<i>Electric Conductivity</i>	3200	<i>Free Carbon Dioxide</i>	Absent
<i>Chlorine present as</i>		<i>Dissolved Solids dried</i>	
<i>Chloride</i> ... ..	740	<i>at 180°C.</i> ... ..	2130
<i>Hardness: Total</i> ...	80	<i>Alkalinity as Calcium</i>	
<i>Carbonate</i> ... ..	80	<i>Carbonate</i> ... ..	380
<i>Non-Carbonate</i>	0	<i>Nitrite Nitrogen</i>	
<i>Nitrate Nitrogen</i> ...	0.0	<i>approx.</i>	0.1
<i>Albuminoid Nitrogen</i>	0.017	<i>Oxygen Absorbed</i> ...	0.35
<i>Ammonical Nitrogen</i>	0.37		
<i>Metals, Iron</i> ... ..	0.06	<i>Residual Chlorine</i> ...	0.45
<i>Zinc, Copper &amp; Lead</i>	Absent	<i>Fluoride</i> ... ..	5.8

#### Premises connected to water main

The number of houses supplied from water mains is	...	1350
The number of houses supplied from standpipes (with an approximate population of 60)	... ..	49
The number of houses connected to water mains during the year was	... ..	26

### PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

#### Inspections

Houses visited under Housing Acts	... ..	85
Visits under Public Health Acts	... ..	10
Butchers' Shops visited	... ..	17
Fried Fish Shops visited	... ..	3
Ice Cream Stores visited	... ..	24
Bakehouses visited	... ..	3
Visits under Factory Acts	... ..	15
Movable dwellings and Caravan Sites visited	... ..	13
Dairies visited	... ..	5
Visits under Offices and Shops Acts	... ..	25



## Notices

Statutory Notices served, Public Health Acts	...	...	Nil
Informal Notices served, Public Health Acts	...	...	3
Informal Notices complied with	...	...	3
Demolition Orders issued	...	...	Nil
Closing Orders issued	...	...	Nil

## SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Twenty-six houses were connected to sewers during the year.

## HOUSING

Housing generally throughout the Urban District is above average. There are no slums and most of the properties are owner-occupied and in a good state of repair. Action under the Housing Acts have been taken where considered necessary.

Work on the reconstruction of No. 2 Grange Cottage, East Road commenced in 1963 and which was subject to an undertaking under Section 16 of the Housing Act 1957, was completed.

An undertaking was accepted under Section 16 of the Housing Act 1957 for the reconstruction of No. 2 Church Villas, High Street; the work was commenced and completed during the year.

No. 1 The Lawns, Mill Road was found to be unfit for habitation and an undertaking under the Housing Acts was accepted to remedy the defects. Work was commenced but not completed during the year.

## REFUSE DISPOSAL

Refuse is disposed of at the Colchester Borough's controlled tip at Shrub End.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Measles: 4;    Dysentery: 1.

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the district, and requirements are adequately met by slaughterhouses in Colchester.

The number of food premises registered under Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act are: —

Meat Products	...	3
Ice Cream premises	...	24 (sale only)

The following food was voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption: —

Ham (cooked)	...	20 lbs.
Fish	...	7 lbs.

## MOSQUITO NUISANCE

Known breeding places of mosquitoes were treated at intervals throughout the breeding season.

## FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Routine inspection of factories is made at suitable intervals. The attention of the management is drawn to any defects which are observed.

<i>Premises</i>	<i>No. on Register</i>	<i>No. of Inspections</i>
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	15
Cases in which defects were found ...	Nil	.

## OUTWORK

<i>Number of outworkers in August List required by Section 110 (i) (c)</i>	<i>Irregularities Sect. 110</i>	<i>Irregularities Sect. 111</i>
Nil	—	—

